



Docket No. 2024729-7014395001
(260/048DIV)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:)
Thomas P. Coen, et al) Group Art Unit: Not-Yet-Assigned
Serial No.: 10/625,194)
Filed: July 23, 2003) Examiner: Not-Yet-Assigned
For: IRRIGATION SHEATH)
)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97 and 1.98, the items identified in this Information Disclosure Statement (“IDS”) are brought to the attention of the Office. The items are listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08A (08-00). Copies are not enclosed since each item was submitted or cited in a parent application (Serial No. 09/886,754)

The items identified in this IDS may or may not be “material” pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56. The submission thereof by Applicant is not to be construed as an admission that any such patent, publication or other information referred to therein is material or considered to be material (37 CFR § 1.97(h)), or even qualifies as “prior art” under 35 USC § 102 with respect to this invention unless specifically designated by Applicant as such.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
(37 C.F.R. §1.8)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Services on the date shown below with sufficient postage as “First Class Mail” to addressee in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Maritza D. Kidd

Name of Person transmitting Paper

Signature of Person depositing Paper

October 2, 2003

Date of deposit

PA:52119311.1/2024729-7014395001

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FILING PROVISION:

This IDS is believed to be timely in that it is being submitted under 37 CFR § 1.97(b), that is (1) within three months of the filing date of the application, which is not a continued prosecution application filed under § 1.53(d) or (2) within three months of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR § 1.491; or (3) before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or (4) before the mailing of a first Office action after filing a request for continued examination under § 1.114. Thus, no fee is required.

However, if the undersigned is in error in this regard, Applicant respectfully requests that the Office consider this IDS as filed under 37 CFR § 1.97(c), if applicable, and charge the fee due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) to the deposit account referenced below.

However, if the undersigned is in error in this regard, Applicant respectfully requests that the Office consider this IDS as filed under 37 CFR § 1.97(c), if applicable, and a statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e) is included below, thus no fee is required.

This IDS is being submitted under 37 CFR § 1.97(c), that is after mailing of a first Office action on the merits, but before a Final Action under 37 CFR § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR § 1.311.

The fee due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) is submitted herewith.

A statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e) is included below, thus no fee is required. In the event that this IDS is not received before a Final Action or a Notice of Allowance, then Applicant respectfully requests that the Office consider the filing of these papers to be submitted under 37 CFR § 1.97(d) and charge the fee due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) to the deposit account below.

This IDS is being submitted under 37 CFR § 1.97(d), that is after a Final Action under 37 CFR § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR § 1.311, but before payment of the issue fee. A statement under 37 CFR § 1.97(e) is included below. The fee due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) is submitted herewith.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(e):

Each item contained in this IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

No item contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

PAYMENT AND/OR AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE FEES:

- A check in the amount of _____ is enclosed for the above fee(s).
- Please charge _____ to Deposit Account No. **50-2518** for the above fee(s).
- Although applicant believes no fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees required by the filing of these papers, and to credit any overpayment to Bingham McCutchen's Deposit Account No. **50-2518**.

Respectfully submitted,
BIGHAM McCUTCHEN LLP

By: 

David T. Burse
Reg. No. 37,104

Dated: 10/2/03

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

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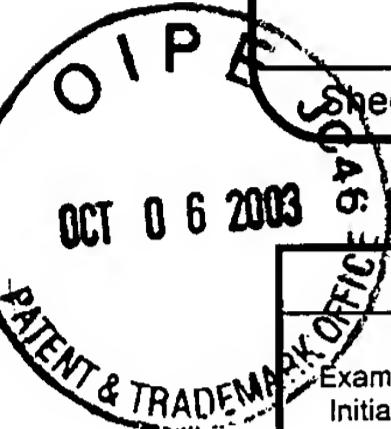
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1 Attorney Docket Number 2024729-7014395001 (260/048DV)



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1.	4,935,017		Sylvanowicz	06-1990	
	2.	5,267,982		Sylvanowicz	12-1993	
	3.	5,348,555		Zinnanti	09-1994	
	4.	5,354,291		Bales et al	10-1994	
	5.	5,441,503		Considine et al	08-1995	
	6.	5,449,357		Zinnanti	09-1995	
	7.	5,571,161		Starksen	11-1996	
	8.	5,669,881		Dunshee	09-1997	
	9.	5,871,525		Edwards et al	02-16-1999	
	10.	5,893,884		Tu	04-1999	
	11.	5,928,241		Menut et al	07-1999	
	12.	5,947,990		Smith	09-1999	
	13.	6,033,402		Tu et al	03-07-2000	
	14.	6,063,081		Mulier et al	05-16-2000	
	15.	6,090,105		Zepeda et al	07-18-2000	
	16.	6,126,592		Proch et al	10-03-2000	
	17.	6,152,919		Hakky	11-2000	
	18.	6,159,198		Gardeski et al	12-2000	
	19.	6,159,209		Hakki	12-2000	
	20.	6,165,174		Jacobs et al	12-26-2000	
	21.	6,174,308		Goble et al	01-2001	
	22.	6,217,576		Tu et al	04-2001	
	23.	6,544,247		Gardeski et al	04-2003	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Office ³	Number ⁴			
	24.	WO	97/41793	Jacobs	11-13-1997	

Examiner Signature Date Considered

¹ EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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